



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

New Owners/Operators of Underground Storage Tank Systems

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Description:

- Underground Storage Tanks (USTs) are tanks and any underground piping connected to the tank that has at least 10% of its combined volume underground.
- USTs are generally made from steel or fiberglass and contain regulated substances such as petroleum products or hazardous substances.

Environmental Impacts:

- Faulty installation, corrosion or inadequate operating and maintenance procedures can cause USTs to release their contents into the environment, thus becoming Leaking Underground Storage Tanks (LUSTs).
- Compliance with UST regulations is important to prevent the release of petroleum and hazardous substances into the environment. Preventing releases is essential to keep petroleum or other hazardous substance from seeping into the soil and contaminating groundwater, as well as other health and environmental risks, including the potential for fire and explosion.

IDEM's Role:

- The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) is responsible for protecting human health and the environment while providing for safe industrial, agricultural, commercial, and governmental operations vital to a prosperous economy.
- IDEM is responsible for assuring that all regulated underground storage tanks meet requirements for release detection, spill and overflow prevention and corrosion protection, and to insure that tanks not meeting those requirements are properly upgraded or closed. IDEM regulates USTs owned/operated by both businesses and private individuals.
- IDEM is also responsible for registering new UST owners and facilities, inspecting UST facilities every three (3) years and implementing enforcement actions.

Basic Requirements:

- **Notification:**
Within thirty (30) days of UST ownership, property transfers, or bringing a system into use, the owner is required to notify IDEM by using *State Form (45223) Notification for Underground Storage Tanks*. This form is available by:
 - Calling the Underground Storage Tank Section at (317)308-3024.
 - Calling the Compliance and Technical Assistance Program at (800)988-7901.
 - Downloading the form from the IDEM web-site at <http://www.in.gov/icpr/webfile/formsdiv/45223.doc>.
- **Fee Payment:**
Owners of USTs are required to pay annual UST fees in the amounts of \$90.00 per petroleum tank, and \$245.00 per hazardous substance tank. These fees are divided among three funds: Excess Liability Trust Fund, Petroleum Trust Fund, and the Hazardous Substance Trust Fund. These funds provide financial assurance for tank owners and operators, clean-up costs, administrative costs and State funded clean-up of leaking or abandoned petroleum USTs.
- **UST System Compliance:**
 - **Leak Detection:** A method or combination of methods of leak detection (release detection) is required at all times for the underground storage tank and the associated

pipng. In addition to release detection, routine testing and recordkeeping are also required.

- **Leak Detection Methods:** Automatic tank gauging systems, vapor monitoring, groundwater monitoring, statistical inventory reconciliation, and other methods that meet performance standards.
- **Secondary Containment - Piping:** After July 1, 2007, all newly installed or replaced piping connected to the tank must meet the secondary containment requirements described under 329 IAC 9.
- **Secondary Containment – Tanks:** IDEM is currently developing a rule which will require all new or replaced tanks to be secondarily contained and interstitially monitored. The rule will also require under dispenser containment. Expected effective date of this rule is early 2009.
- **Spill and Overfill Prevention:**
 - **Spill:** The owner and operator must ensure that spills do not occur. The owner/operator must have a spill catchment basin that can contain five (5) gallons if the product drains back into the tank and twenty-five (25) gallon catchment basin when product does not drain back into the tank.
 - **Overfill:** The UST system owner and operator must have overfill protection. Some of the methods of overfill protection are: automatic shut off devices, overfill alarms, and ball float valves. Most of these methods are included upon new tank installation.
- **Cathodic Protection Compliance and Testing:** Owners and operators of steel UST systems are required to operate and maintain a form of corrosion protection according to 329 IAC 9-3.1-2. Corrosion inspection and testing is required every three (3) years.
- **Reporting and Recordkeeping:**
 - **Reporting:** Reporting is required for notification of UST system installation, change of ownership, change in service, and closure. Owners/operators are required to report suspected and confirmed releases within twenty-four (24) hours.
 - **Recordkeeping:** Maintaining records is required. Owners and operators are required to allow IDEM inspectors to review the previous twelve (12) months of monitoring results, manufacturer's performance claims, maintenance, repairs, upgrades, inspection and testing of a corrosion protection system, and financial responsibility records.
- **Inspections:** An IDEM inspector is permitted under the Indiana Code (IC) 13-14-2-2 to enter private or public property to inspect for and investigate possible violations.
- **Financial Responsibility Compliance:** Owners must demonstrate compliance with financial responsibility requirements to ensure that in the event of a leak or spill, an owner or operator will have the resources to pay for costs associated with cleaning up releases and compensating third parties.

More Information:

- For more information on UST Compliance, visit IDEM's Web-site at <http://www.in.gov/idem/4999.htm>.
- For UST questions and concerns, contact IDEM's Office of Land Quality, UST Section at (317) 308-3024.
- For UST fees and billing, call (800) 451-6027 ext. 4-0343 or (317) 234-0343.
- For more information on federal UST programs and regulations, visit the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) Web-site at www.epa.gov/oust/.
- A suspected or confirmed release must be reported within twenty-four (24) hours. To report a release call (888) 233-7745, or locally at (317) 233-7745.
- For confidential compliance assistance, please call the Compliance and Technical Assistance Program at (800) 988-7901 ext. 2-8172.